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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/629,310	07/28/2003	Heinrich Schenk	12816-092001 / S-2497	6604
26161	7590	09/27/2004	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON PC 225 FRANKLIN ST BOSTON, MA 02110			TAKAOKA, DEAN O	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2817	

DATE MAILED: 09/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/629,310	SCHENK, HEINRICH	
	Examiner Dean O Takaoka	Art Unit 2817	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 11-13 and 15-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 11,13,15,16 and 19 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 12,17,18 and 20-22 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 28 July 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/28/03.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

The numbering of claims is not in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires the original numbering of the claims to be preserved throughout the prosecution. When claims are canceled, the remaining claims must not be renumbered. When new claims are presented, they must be numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claims previously presented (whether entered or not).

The new claims included in the Preliminary amendment date July 28, 2003 for claims 11 – 13 and 15 – 22 have not been numbered consecutively. Claim 14 is missing and has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 11, 13, 15, 16 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Arnesen (US 3,601,718).

Claim 11:

Arnesen shows a signal source (10) having a complex internal resistance (unlabeled R in signal 10); a signal transmission line having a first end connected to the signal source (e.g. e_{in}); a complex terminating resistance (11 or 20) connected to a second end of the signal transmission line (e_0); where at least one of the internal

resistance and the terminating resistance is selected to reduce frequency-dependent signal attenuation in the selected frequency range (col. 2, lines 40-45; where when R_{11} is large with respect to R_{12} , the loss in signal amplitude is small, thus inherently reducing frequency-dependent signal attenuation in the selected frequency range of signal 10).

Claim 13:

Where the terminating resistance (Markush grouping) comprises a real resistance in series with an inductance (where load 11 or 20 comprises impedance; where the impedance vector or Z_{load} equals the real resistance in series with an inductance, e.g. inductive reactance or jXl).

Claim 15:

Where the terminating resistance is selected independently of a bandwidth of the signal transmission line (where by the equation of col. 2, line 40 with respect to the load resistance R_{11} when R_{11} is larger than R_{12} , where the bandwidth of the signal line is not given or considered, where e_0 is a function of e_{in} , thus independent of a bandwidth of the signal transmission line).

Claim 16:

Where the terminating resistance is selected independently of a symbol transmission rate of the transmission system (where as discussed in the reasons for rejection of claim 16, the equation of col. 2, line 40 with respect to the load resistance R_{11} when R_{11} is larger than R_{12} , where the transmission rate is not given or considered,

where e_0 is a function of e_{in} , thus independent of a symbol transmission rate of the transmission system).

Claim 19:

Comprising a first transformer (T1) disposed to couple the signal source to the transmission line and a second transformer (T2) disposed to couple the transmission line to the load.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 12, 17, 18, and 20 – 22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Petitjean et al. – shows a variable attenuation device.

Schmidt – shows a variable attenuation device.

Brunner – shows a variable attenuation device.

Witt – shows a variable attenuation device.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dean O Takaoka whose telephone number is (571) 272-1772. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30a - 5:00p Mon - Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pascal can be reached on (571) 272-1769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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September 17, 2004